



2021 WORLD ATHLETICS U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection Criteria Amendments

- **March 25, 2021:**
 - **Throughout document:** Important Dates updated to reflect the World Athletics decision to postpone the competition from July, 2020 to August, 2021 due to COVID-19.
 - **Section 1.3:**
 - Added requirement to comply with COVID-19 countermeasures.
 - Adjusted age eligibility based on World Athletics eligibility criteria.
 - **Section 5:** Updated Appeals process to align with the AC Commissioner's Office – Terms of Reference.
 - **Section 6:** Added language regarding possible further amendments necessitated by COVID-19.



OVERVIEW

All selections will be made in accordance with Athletics Canada's (AC) [National Team – Selection Rules Book](#). AC is limited in entries by World Athletics rules and regulations that will always take precedence should there be any contradictions contained within the Selection Criteria (the "Criteria"). Attached to the Criteria, and forming an integral part of it, is Appendix A: Athletics Canada (AC) Selection Standards. The National Team Committee (NTC) is responsible for the implementation of the Criteria and has the sole authority and discretion to make all decisions relating to the selection of the team for the 2021 World Athletics U20 Championships.

1 GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Event Location

Nairobi, Kenya

1.2 Important Dates

Important Dates		
DATES	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
December 1, 2020 – July 25, 2021	Qualifying Period	
July 25, 2021	Declaration Deadline	Online Form
July 26, 2021	Selection Date	
August 2, 2021	Deadline to submit training and competition plan for the period August 2, 2021 to August 17, 2021	Email to: nicole.clarke@athletics.ca
TBC	Depart Canada	
August 17-22, 2021	Athletics Competition	Nairobi, Kenya
August 23, 2021	Depart Nairobi	

1.3 Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the 2021 World Athletics U20 Championships, an athlete must meet the following requirements:

- be a registered member of an Athletics Canada Branch at the time of qualification and through the 2021 World Athletics U20 Championships;
- hold Canadian Citizenship by the Selection Date;
- declare interest via the Online Form as per the dates outlined in section 1.2;
- comply with the Final Phase Preparation Requirements as outlined in section 4;
- be otherwise eligible to participate in the 2021 World Athletics U20 Championships;
- have a Canadian passport valid for at least 6 months after the 2021 World Athletics U20 Championships;
- be born in 2002, 2003 or 2004; and



- Must comply with all COVID-19 countermeasures implemented by AC, WA, the local organizing committee or other relevant governing bodies.

1.4 Events

100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 3000m, 5000m, , 10,000m RW, 3000mSC, 110mH (men 39" Hurdles), 100mH (women 33" Hurdles), 400mH (men 36" Hurdles / women 30" Hurdles), HJ, PV, LJ, TJ, SP (men 6kg / women 4kg), DT (men 1.75kg / women 1kg), HT (men 6kg / women 4kg), JT (men 800g / women 600g), Heptathlon (women), Decathlon (men), 4x100m Relay, 4x400m Relay, 4x400m Mixed Relay.

1.5 Maximum per Event

World Athletics allows a maximum of two (2) athletes per country per individual event and six (6) athletes per relay.

1.6 Youth Athletes

The maximum number of events in which a Youth athlete (born in 2004) can compete is two individual events plus one of the relays. If the two individual events are Track Events, only one of these may be longer than 200m.

1.7 Declaration Deadline

Athletes are required to declare their interest to participate by completing the online form no later than July 25, 2021. **Failure to complete declaration by the deadline will render the athlete ineligible for selection.**

1.8 Selection Date and Team Announcement

The NTC will make team selections on July 26, 2021. AC will announce the team through established communication channels (Branches, AC website, HP Newsletter); athletes selected to the team will be contacted directly.

1.9 Funding

This team will be 100% funded by Athletics Canada.

2 TEAM OBJECTIVES

- To increase the number of Canadian athletes who improve on their pre-event ranking, seasonal best and personal best, number of medals, top 8 and who place in the top half of their field as compared to the most recent World Athletics U20 Championships.

3 SELECTION PROCESS

All selections will be made in accordance with Athletics Canada's (AC) [National Team – Selection Rules Book](#).

NOTE: It is the responsibility of the athlete to submit eligible performances to Athletics Canada at results@athletics.ca in order to be considered for selection.



3.1 The National Team Committee (NTC)

The NTC is comprised of the following:

- **Chair**
- **Voting Members** – Athletics Canada Technical Staff (two), Event Specialists (two), Branch Representatives (two, as designated by Branch Council), and Athlete Representatives (two, as designated by the Athlete Directors). In the case of a tie, the Chair of the NTC has the tie-breaking vote.
- **Non-Voting** – Can be asked to be present at parts of an NTC Selection Meeting depending on expertise and input required, but might include: Athletics Canada coaching and Integrated Support Team (“IST”) staff, statistician, legal advisor, as required.

3.2 Selection Process

The top two (2) ranked eligible athletes (see section 1.3) who have achieved the Qualifying Standard (see Appendix A) during the Qualifying Period (see section 1.2) will be selected. The Qualifying Standards were determined based on actual top-16 performances at recent World U20 Championships, or the World Athletics Standards in cases where they are more difficult.

NOTE: Ties will be broken in the following priority order:

- 1) Second best performance within the Qualifying Period
- 2) Head-to-head results within the Qualifying Period
- 3) Most recently achieved standard

If athletes remain in a tie, the NTC will apply its discretion to break the tie.

3.3 Selection For More Than One Event

Athletics Canada (“AC”) believes that athletes and coaches should carefully consider contesting more than one event (not including the relay) at the World Athletics World U20 Championships. If an athlete is likely to qualify for more than one event, the athlete and their coach should carefully consider whether it is wise to attempt competing in more than one event (i.e. a “double”), as the case may be. In making a determination, the athlete and their coach should consider the following factors:

- (i) the World U20 Championships timetable;
- (ii) the likely local weather and other environmental considerations (including altitude);
- (iii) the likely opposition (i.e. the level of competition and depth of field in the particular events);
- (iv) the maturity of the athlete; and
- (v) experience of the athlete.



Specifically, AC believes that contesting multiple endurance events in the same championships is particularly challenging at the World Athletics World U20 Championships – both for results at these championships and for the athlete’s long term future development. AC will be available to assist coaches, athletes and/or parents, as the case may be, in coming to a decision about competing in more than one event (i.e. “doubling”) at these championships.

AC has set the following selection rules for athletes wishing to compete in more than one event:

- U18 athletes – see section 1.6.
- Other team members: Athletes may be selected for more than one event, within the overall World Athletics World U20 Championships entry rules.

3.4 Selection for Relays

Depending on available athletes, Team Canada will compete in the 4x100m, 4x400m and 4x400m Mixed relays with the goal of top 8 performances or better.

- The NTC may select up to six (6) athletes per relay.
- The appointed Team Relay Coach, in consultation with the team’s Head Coach, will determine which team members make up the relay team and the running order. Any team member may be asked to run in the relay. Potential athletes will be notified in a timely manner.
- All potential athletes will be expected to sign a “Relay Agreement”, which outlines responsibilities of selected relay team members, which includes expectations and commitments to the team. Athletes who fail to sign the agreement will be removed from the relay pool.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

All athletes, if requested by the team head coach, must be prepared to compete in relays.

4 FINAL PHASE PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

4.1 Training and Competition Plan

Selected athletes (and/or their coaches) are required to present a training and competition plan for the period August 2, 2021 to August 17, 2021 to National Teams Manager, Nicole Clarke at nicole.clarke@athletics.ca on or before August 2, 2021.

All plans must address the following:

1. The schedule and list of planned competitions, travel and training locations.
2. Present a training cycle for the final phase showing patterns of training load



and recovery on a weekly basis.

3. Injury prevention and medical intervention strategies if applicable.

Athletes must notify AC in **WRITING** of any changes to their plans.

4.2 Injury or Illness

Athletes who arrive at an international competition injured or ill consume a disproportionate amount of IST time and resources that should be spent on preparing healthy athletes to compete at their best. It is therefore AC's intention to work with the selected athletes that have been injured or ill to help them recover in time for the competition with a minimal impact to training, or (in the event that full recovery is not possible for this competition) to ensure full recovery so that full training can resume and long-term potential is optimized. With this in mind, the NTC reserves the right to deselect injured/ill athletes who are not sufficiently healthy/fit to perform at their best at the competition.

Once selected, and ongoing until the World Athletics U20 Championships, athletes are required to immediately report any injury, illness, or change in training status that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level. Failure to properly report injury or illness prior to the event may result in the athlete being deselected and held financially responsible for all the athlete's costs associated with the event. Notification must be sent immediately to Nicole Clarke at nicole.clarke@athletics.ca.

Once notified of an athlete's injury, illness or change in training status that could affect their performance, AC team staff will work with the athlete, coach and local/national team IST resources to ensure that a complete injury and illness assessment has occurred and a recovery plan is in place. This assessment will include a determination of the athlete's potential for recovery and ability to compete at their best. This determination will comprise of two steps:

STEP 1: Medical Clearance

Generally done by local IST in collaboration with AC's national IST and consists of 2 phases:

- a) An initial medical evaluation and paramedical assessment(s) to confirm the diagnosis and determine if/when the athlete is fit to return to full training or competition.
- b) A functional evaluation by IST with experience specific to the event demands (and injury or illness if applicable). This may include assessment of the athlete's movement pattern, for example, during a run, hurdle, jump, walk, or throw to identify dysfunctional movement patterns that may be contributing to the injury and potentially increase the risk of re-injury or undermine their competition performance.



STEP 2: Specific Evaluation

Following medical clearance by the medical team, a more comprehensive physical readiness test (the “Performance Test”) to compete will be established as follows:

- Determination of the Performance Test will involve the AC Head Coach or his/her delegate, the event head coach, and the personal coach.
- The Performance Test will vary according to the event, injury or illness.
- The Performance Test will be objective, measurable, fair, realistic, specific to the event, and challenging.

In the case that the athlete is deemed unfit to resume training/competition, or does not meet the Performance Test standard, the athlete would be declared unready for competition and the results of the two steps will be forwarded to the NTC for a decision.

The NTC will use all available information at their disposal including performance results and progress in the final phase, suitability of the training and competition plan, fitness and other final phase indicators, consultation with the AC national event group coach, AC national IST leads, the athlete’s personal IST, and any other performance related information (ie Performance Test results when applicable) to determine if the injured/ill athlete will be deselected and will not travel with the team.

The NTC may nominate the next eligible athlete, provided that the alternate athlete has proven their preparation during the final phase and meets all event specific requirements in regards to qualifying standards and timelines.

4.3 Health Questionnaire and Anti-Doping

Upon selection, all athletes will be required to complete a Medical Information Form. These questionnaires will ask athletes to declare all supplements and medications that are being used prior, during and after the event. Athletes who need to take medications while competing **must** ensure they have a completed and approved World Athletics Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE), if required, prior to selection. **Note:** It is not the responsibility of the AC team physicians to complete the documents for TUEs on behalf of the athlete. This should be done by the physician who prescribed the medication that requires the TUE. AC team physicians are available, however, for questions related to whether or not a TUE is required. Information regarding the TUEs for World Athletics events can be found here:

<https://www.worldathletics.org/about-iaaf/documents/anti-doping>.



5 APPEALS

Please refer to the “National Team Selection Rules Book” and the AC Commissioner’s Office – Terms of Reference for full information on the AC appeals process. The process is also summarised at <http://athletics.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Process-for-Submitting-Appeals-EN.pdf>.

Appeals must be submitted to the following e-mail address: Commissioner@athletics.ca.

Contact appeals@athletics.ca for payment options of the \$250 appeal fee. The appeal will not be reviewed until the appeal fee has been paid.

6 AMENDMENTS TO THE CRITERIA

AC reserves the right to amend this Selection Criteria. If amendments are made, they will be communicated as soon as possible through the AC website.

Athletics Canada is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact this competition. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, Athletics Canada will respect this selection criteria as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require this criteria to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the criteria (including Athletics Canada’s decision whether or not to send a team). In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow this criteria to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including selection decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this criteria in accordance with the stated performance objectives as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, Athletics Canada will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

In addition to the above, the NTC may amend the Criteria under the following circumstances:

1. When additional (or new) information that is deemed relevant by the NTC to the Criteria is provided by external parties, such as (but not limited to) an event organizing committee, Sport Canada, the COC, World Athletics, or any other relevant organization; and
2. To correct, clarify or amend any inconsistencies, errors or omissions in the Criteria.

Any changes made by the NTC are deemed to come into effect immediately upon publication on the AC website. The NTC will publish the amended Criteria by whatever means and wherever the original Criteria were published.



APPENDIX A
2021 WORLD ATHLETICS U20 CHAMPIONSHIPS
ATHLETICS CANADA (AC) SELECTION STANDARDS

Men	Event	Women
10.58	<i>100m</i>	11.80
21.25	<i>200m</i>	24.20
47.35	<i>400m</i>	54.25
1:50.80	<i>800m</i>	2:07.20
3:48.00	<i>1500m</i>	4:23.20
8:14.00	<i>3000m</i>	9:25.00
14:12.00	<i>5000m</i>	16:35.00
42:50.00	<i>10,000m Race Walk</i>	47:50.00
13.90	<i>110m/100m Hurdles</i>	13.70
52.10	<i>400m Hurdles</i>	59.50
9:00.00	<i>3000m SC</i>	10:19.30
2.16m	<i>High Jump</i>	1.82m
5.10m	<i>Pole Vault</i>	4.07m
7.58m	<i>Long Jump</i>	6.15m
15.60m	<i>Triple Jump</i>	12.90m
18.30m	<i>Shot Put</i>	14.60m
57.00m	<i>Discus</i>	49.00m
68.50m	<i>Hammer</i>	58.00m
69.50m	<i>Javelin</i>	50.50m
7100	<i>Decathlon/Heptathlon</i>	5390
No Standard	<i>4x100m Relay</i>	No Standard
No Standard	<i>4x400m Relay</i>	No Standard
No Standard	<i>4x400m Mixed Relay</i>	No Standard

**Standards must be achieved in accordance with the Performance Regulations outlined in section 2 of the [National Team Selection – Rules Book](#)*